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Message Text

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R 192132Z JUN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: BTRA, UR
SUBJECT: VISIT OF AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS

1. OFFICIALS OF THE PIPELINE RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE VISIT MOSCOW LATE AUGUST TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON GAS PIPELINE RESEARCH WITH APPROPRIATE SOVIET OFFICIALS. PIPELINE RESEARCH COMMITTEE WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY L.E. HANNA, VICE PRESIDENT, ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH, PANHANDLE EASTERN PIPE LINE COMPANY, CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE; R. RICHARD SCHOLLHAMMER, MANAGER, PIPELINE RESEARCH COMMITTEE; AND POSSIBLY R. C. JACKSON, VICE PRESIDENT, ENGINEERING AND PURCHASING, CITIES SERVICE GAS COMPANY, A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. GROUP WOULD PLAN ARRIVE MOSCOW AUGUST 28 AND SPEND UP TO FOUR DAYS THERE. BELIEVE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS MOST LIKELY TO BE INTERESTED IN PIPLEINE COMMITTEE GROUP ARE: MINISTRY OF THE GAS INDUSTRY; MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION OF PETROLEUM AND GAS INDUSTRY ENTERPRISES; STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; G. V. ZAITSEV, PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL BOARD FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES OF OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY
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OF THE U.S.S. R.,(THIS MAY NOT BE EXACT NAME) U1. KUIBYSHEV

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3-8, MOSCOW K-12; MR. K.I. ZAITSEV, PIPELINE
INSTITUTE; ALL UNION RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR MAIN PIPELINE
CONSTRUCTION; AND THE PIPELINE EQUIPMENT DESIGN BUREAU.
WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE EITHER A PIPE FABRICATION MILL
OR CONSTRUCTION ON A PIPELINE IN THE FIELD USING 1.4 METER
DIAMETER PIPE. GROUP PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO SEE ALL
UNION INSTITUTE, AND A PIPE MILL. HANNA AND SCHOLLHAMMER
PREPARED TO PRESENT BRIEF TECHNICAL OVERVIEW OF THE WORK
OF THE COMMITTEE (SLIDES, PRESENTATION OF RECENTLY PUBLISHED
REPORTS, ETC. LASTING NOT MORE THAN TWO HOURS TOTAL) AND
WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING WHAT SOVIETS ARE DOING
IN FIELD OF GAS PIPELINE RESEARCH.

2. THE PIPELINE RESEARCH COMMITTEE SPENDS APPROXIMATELY DOLS
2 MILLION ANNUALLY ON SEVEN MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH. FOREMOST
OF THESE AREAS IS LINE PIPE RESEARCH WHICH DEALS WITH
PREVENTING STRESS CORROSION CRACKING, IDENTIFYING THE
TENDENCIES OF DEFECTS TO GROW IN STEEL AS A RESULT OF
HYDROGEN ABSORBED DURING CATHODIC PROTECTION IN SOIL
ENVIRONMENTS, DETERMINING MORE ACCURATELY THE CONDITIONS
SURROUNDING FRACTURE INITIATION AND PROPAGATION IN
LINE PIPE MATERIALS THROUGH FULL-SCALE EXPERIMENTS,
ANALYZING WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF COMPUTERS AND THEORETICAL
INVESTIGATIONS OF DUCTILE CRACK PROPAGATION AND ARREST IN
A PRESSURIZED PIPELINE, STUDYING THE METALLURGICAL
VARIABLES THAT INFLUENCE THE ENERGY ABSORPTION OF DUCTILE
FRACTURE OF PIPE STEELS, AND IDENTIFYING THE METALLURGICAL
FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE THE QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE OF THE WELD
ZONE IN SPECIALLY WELDED PIPE.

3. THE PIPELINE RESEARCH COMMITTEE IS ALSO SPONSORING
RESEARCH IN OTHER IMPORTANT AREAS SUCH AS UNDERGROUND
STORAGE, SHIP-TO-SHORE TRANSFER OF LNG, DEVELOPING
DYNAMIC LNG FLOW MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES, NONDESTRUCTIVE
TESTING, ENHANCING PIPELINE TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS IN WATER
DEPTHS EXCEEDING THREE HUNDRED FEET, CONDITIONING GAS
FOR PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH RETROGRADE CONDENSATE AND/OR
TWO-PHASE GAS LIQUID FLOW, AND INVESTIGATING VARIOUS
ECOLOGICAL RELATED ASPECTS OF THE TRANSMISSION INDUSTRY.

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4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUESTED TO APPROACH SOVIET
ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS NOTED ABOVE, AND OTHERS THAT
MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THE COMMITTEE'S WORK, AND
DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH
COMMITTEE OFFICIALS ON DATES SPECIFIED. HANNA AND SCHOLLHAMMER
DELAYING APPLYING FOR BUSINESS VISA UNTIL THERE IS SOME
INDICATION THAT SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS WILL SPONSOR VISIT.
WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE REPLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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